

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON:VT

APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 303992

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

1. AMBASSADOR AND MRS. STOESSEL ARRIVED TODAY ON SCHEDULE.
NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT THIS END ON THE PROBLEM.

2. IGOR BELOUSOVITCH IS THINKING OF JAN. 10 ARRIVAL. WIFE
WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY THEREAFTER. IS THAT OK? INR EXPECTS
GRAVES FIRST WEEK OF FEB.

3. DECEMBER 24 ARMITAGE RAISED WITH VORONTOSV THE JANUARY
1 CHANGES IN FOREIGN REMITTANCE LAWS AND PROCEDURES.
VORONTSOV REACTED NEGATIVELY, BUT INDICATED HE WOULD REPORT
ARMITAGE'S CONCERN TO MOSCOW. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION
DECEMBER 24 A SOVIET EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER SAID HIS
EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT REMITTANCE RECIPIENTS WILL CON-
TINUE TO BE ABLE TO RECEIVE HARD CURRENCY COUPONS. (PRE-
SUMABLY WITH 35 PER CENT DISCOUNT ON TOP OF 30 PER CENT
DUTY.) WE WILL BE INTERESTED TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE
NEW PROCEDURES ACTUALLY GO INTO EFFECT.

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4. WE WERE PLEASED TO SEE MOSCOW 18399 INDICATING THAT

MANOUG TCHAKRIAN IS PROCEEDING TO ROME. THAT WAS ONE OF THE CASES WE HAVE UNDER REVIEW WITH VO, AND PERHAPS WE MISSED SOME OF THE TRAFFIC. DID INS ROME CONCUR THAT TCHAKRIAN'S LEBANESE CP MEMBERSHIP WAS NON-MEANINGFUL?

5. JOAN NEEDS URGENTLY A CABLE FROM EMBASSY STATING THAT NEUBERT DESIRES TO EXTEND AND THAT EMBASSY SUPPORTS EXTENSION, IF THAT IS CASE. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE303992
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MGARRISON:VT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750449-0561
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975129/aaaaaiap.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON
TAGS: OGEN
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006